

SCOTTSDALE TRANSPORTATION COMMISSION REPORT

To: Transportation Commission
From: Madeline Clemann, Transit Supervisor
Meeting Date: October 18, 2012
Subject: Cab Connection Program Update



ITEM IN BRIEF

Action: Information Only

Background

The Cab Connection program, established in 2000, provides subsidized taxi rides for Scottsdale residents 65+ or disabled. The program guidelines require participants to complete the regional ADA certification process, even though certification is not a requirement for service. Identification of ADA participants is important from a financing perspective as those trips are reimbursed Proposition 400 funding.

Currently the program provides 16 vouchers per month to each participant. Each voucher (one-way taxi ride) is subsidized at 80 percent up to a maximum of \$10.00. Passengers pay the balance of the ride cost. Average FY12 trip costs were \$8.06 for the City subsidy and \$2.50 per passenger. The program provides over 50,000 trips each year and continues to grow by approximately nine percent annually. The number of participants per month that ordered vouchers exceeded 900 in FY12.

The cost data for the Cab Connection program is shown in Table 1 below. The table indicates the number of individuals ordering vouchers each month has doubled since 2009, while the number of vouchers used has increased only slightly in the same period. As the number of vouchers used increases, the City cost also rises. Fortunately, the City has been able to recoup almost 50 percent of the program costs from the City's share of Proposition 400 funding.

The number of participants per age range in the Cab Connection program is shown in Table 2 below. The data indicates that the majority (71 percent) of the participants are age 75 and older.

Table 1. 5-year Cab Connection Cost Information, FY 2009-2013

Fiscal Year	Program Cost	Vouchers Used	Avg. Monthly Participants	City Subsidy, Avg. per Voucher
2009	\$372,585	44,246	465	\$8.42
2010	\$389,084	48,587	663	\$8.01
2011	\$425,117	51,965	713	\$8.18
2012	\$431,037	53,476	839	\$8.06
2013 Est.	\$436,000	58,300	915	\$8.06

Table 2. Participant Ages, FY 12

Age	Number of Participants	Percent
0 to 64	145	12
65 to 69	92	7
70 to 74	119	10
75 and over	902	71
Total Annual	1,258	100%

As shown in Table 3 below, the Cab Connection program compared to EVDAR remains less expensive for the City to provide; however, the fare charged for Cab Connection is higher than the non ADA EVDAR fare. Staff continuously works to switch EVDAR participants to the Cab Connection program when appropriate, particularly when the participant's level of service and flexibility is increased. Recently it was revealed that the fare is a key driver of service choice for some low income seniors. Staff will continue to monitor this situation and develop solutions for low income seniors to use the Cab Connection program where possible.

Table 3. Trip Cost Comparison, Cab Connection Vs. EVDAR

Trip Type (one way)	Average Cost Per Trip		
	City Cost	Passenger Fare	Total Trip Cost
Cab Connection	\$8.06	\$2.50	\$10.56
EVDAR ADA	\$26.12	\$3.50	\$29.62
EVDAR non ADA	\$28.62	\$1.00	\$29.62

Smart Card: The RPTA is in process of releasing a Request for Proposal to transition EVDAR to the use of smart cards. The RPTA estimates implementation of the new payment system at the beginning of the next fiscal year, July 1, 2013. Potential exists for the City of Scottsdale to partner with RPTA and use the smart card for our Cab Connection program in 2014 if desired.



Scottsdale Cab Connection FY 12 Update

Scottsdale Transportation Commission
October 18, 2012

COS Paratransit Programs

- Reduced Fare ID Card Application Intake
 - Provided at both Senior Centers
 - Used to obtain reduced fares on EVDAR non ADA trips and fixed route bus service
- Cab Connection
 - City taxi voucher system
- East Valley Dial a Ride (EVDAR)
 - Curb to curb service



Cab Connection Program

- Taxi Vouchers for Residents 65+ or Disabled
- Sixteen Vouchers Per Month Per User
- City Subsidized at 80% Up to \$10.00 Max.
- Requires Completion of ADA Certification (certification not required) and Reduced Fare ID Card



Cab Connection Data, FY12

- 1,258 Active Participants during FY12
 - 53,476 Trips (one way)
 - 840 Average Monthly Participant Orders
 - Average Trip Length 2.5 miles
 - Age of Participants
 - 64 and Under- 145 * 65 to 69- 92
 - 70 to 74- 119 Over 74- 902
- * Disabled participants only



Cab Connection Costs, FY12

- FY 12 Program Cost \$431,038
 - \$223,978 Transportation Sales Tax
 - \$207,060 PTF
- Average Cost Paid per Voucher (one way trip) \$8.06



Cost and Fare Comparison

Cab Connection Vs. EVDAR ADA and Non ADA

Trip Type (one way)	Average Costs Per Trip		
	City Cost	Passenger Fare	Total Trip Cost
Cab Connection	\$ 8.06	\$2.50	\$10.56
EVDAR ADA	\$29.62	\$3.50	\$26.12
EVDAR Non ADA	\$29.62	\$1.00	\$28.62



Smart Card Technology

- RPTA Introducing Smart Card for EVDAR
 - Estimated implementation July 2013
- Potential Cab Connection Link to Smart Card 2014
 - Eliminates need for vouchers



Topics to Continue Monitoring

- Ability to Attract Appropriate Participants from EVDAR to Cab Connection Due to Fare Differences
- Smart Card program

